

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for enhanced privacy protection in identification in a data communications network, the method comprising:

enrolling, by a user, with an authority over said data communications network for a service on said data communications network;

receiving, by said user from said authority over said data communications network, a randomized identifier (ID) in response to said enrolling;

storing said randomized ID; and

using said randomized ID, by said user, and a service request to obtain services, on said data communications network, from a service provider wherein said service provider is different from said authority.

2. (Currently Amended) A program storage device readable by a machine, embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for enhanced privacy protection in identification in a data communications network, the method comprising:

enrolling, by a user, with an authority over said data communications network for a service on said data communications network;

receiving, by said user from said authority over said data communications network, a randomized identifier (ID) in response to said enrolling;

storing said randomized ID; and

using said randomized ID, by said user, and a service request to obtain services, on said data communications

network, from a service provider wherein said service provider is different from said authority.

3. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for enhanced privacy protection in identification in a data communications network, the apparatus comprising:

means for enrolling, by a user, with an authority over said data communications network for a service on said data communications network;

means for receiving, by said user from said authority over said data communications network, a randomized identifier (ID) in response to said enrolling;

means for storing said randomized ID; and

means for using said randomized ID, by said user, and a service request to obtain services, on said data communications network, from a service provider wherein said service provider is different from said authority..

4. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for enhanced privacy protection in identification in a data communications network, the apparatus comprising:

a smart card configured to store a randomized ID obtained in response to enrolling for a service with an authority, by a user, on said data communications network, said smart card further configured to release said randomized ID to obtain services on said data communications network from a service provider wherein said service provider is different from said authority.

5. (Previously Presented) A memory for storing data for access by an application program being executed on a data processing system, comprising:

a data structure stored in said memory, said data structure including:

credential data;

an authority peer group ID that identifies an entity that provided data authentication for said credential, said entity comprising a one or more network servers in a data communications network, one of said one or more network servers providing data authentication for said credential; and

a cryptogram provided by said entity and used to authenticate said credential data.

6. (Currently Amended) A method for obtaining a service on a data communications network, the method comprising:

presenting, over said data communications network an authority on said data communications network with user data and a credential request; and

receiving, over said data communication network, a credential from said authority, in response to said credential request, said credential comprising:

a randomized identifier;

credential user data; and

an indication of the credential user data verification performed by said authority in response to said credential request.

7. (Currently Amended) A method for obtaining a service on a data communications network, the method comprising:

presenting, over said data communications network, an authority on said data communications network with a logon request;

receiving, over said data communications network, a kerberos ticket in response to said user authentication data, said kerberos ticket comprising a randomized user ID; and

using said kerberos ticket to obtain services from one or more service providers on said data communications network wherein said one or more service providers are different from said authority.

8. (Currently Amended) A program storage device readable by a machine, embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for obtaining a service on a data communications network, the method comprising:

presenting, over said data communications network, an authority on said data communications network with a logon request;

receiving, over said data communications network, a kerberos ticket in response to said user authentication data, said kerberos ticket comprising a randomized user ID; and

using said kerberos ticket to obtain services from one or more service providers on said data communications network wherein said one or more service providers are different from said authority.

9. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for obtaining a service on a data communications network, the apparatus comprising:

means for presenting, over said data communications network, an authority on said data communications network with a logon request;

means for receiving, over said data communications network, a kerberos ticket in response to said user authentication data, said kerberos ticket comprising a randomized user ID; and

means for using said kerberos ticket to obtain services from one or more service providers on said data

communications network wherein said one or more service providers are different from said authority.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for obtaining a service on a data communications network, the apparatus comprising:

a service provider configured to accept, over said data communications network, a service request and enrollment results obtained from an enrollment authority, said service provider capable of communicating with said enrollment authority to verify said enrollment results, said service provider configured to provide said service based upon said enrollment results and a response from said enrollment authority.